

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 The invention relates to kits and methods for the sensitive and rapid typing
and enumeration of microorganisms in a sample. The basic method comprises
adhering specific capture-antibodies to a solid support, to bind to microorganisms
specific for the antibody, and adding primary antibodies specific to a viability
marker of the microorganisms. This is followed by the addition of secondary
antibodies that may be conjugated to a reporter molecule. Preferably the reporter
10 function involves light and the detectable marker is aequorin and the need for a
second antibody is overcome. The invention is useful for the detection of a number
of different microorganisms including bacteria, fungi and protozoan of a variety of
species.

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